

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Pages 3 and 27 of the specification are amended as follows:

Page 3, line 21: The amendment from $n_z > n_y$ to $n_z > n_x > n_y$ is obvious from claim 1.

Page 27, line 24 and page 28, line 1: The number of the formula was amended to be in conformity with the numbers of the formulae described on page 30, lines 16 and 17.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended to correct the multiple claim dependencies.

No new matter is added by this amendment. Entry of this amendment is thus proper and earnestly requested.

Conclusion

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Marc S. Weiner (Reg. No. 32,181) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By Marc S. Weiner (32,181)
Marc S. Weiner

Registration No.: 32,181

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant